

News Release

Education Information Services ■ 125 South Webster Street ■ P.O. Box 7841 ■ Madison, WI 53707-7841 ■ (608) 266-3559

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Contact: Tom McCarthy, DPI Communications Officer, (608) 266-3559

Schools named for 2014-15 statewide choice program

MADISON — The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction has announced the names of the private schools and school systems that received the most eligible applications during the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP) application period for the coming school year.

Applications received by the April 21, 2014, deadline exceeded the 1,000 student cap, and as such, state law mandates that only the 25 private schools and school systems that received the most eligible applications are able to participate in the random drawing for the additional voucher slots. Due to a tie in the number of eligible applications at the 25th spot, there will be 26 private schools and school systems included in the random drawing, including six new schools. Five private schools and school systems from the 2013-14 school year did not receive enough eligible applications to be included in the random drawing for additional voucher slots for 2014-15. These five schools, as provided by state law, will receive the same number of voucher slots

Wisconsin Parental Choice Program		
31 Participating Private Schools or School Systems		
Eligible Student Applications — 2014-15		
Prior Year Attendance	Number	Percent
Wisconsin Private School*	2,115	74.6
Includes 1,633 new applicants and 482 2013-14 WPCP students		
Wisconsin Public School	537	18.9
No School	120	4.2
Homeschooled	51	1.8
Out-of-state	11	0.4
TOTAL*	2,834	
* Includes 2013-14 WPCP students (482) who re-applied for 2014-15		

(55) in 2014-15 as they had in 2013-14. Overall, there are 31 private schools or school systems eligible to participate in the WPCP in 2014-15.

The Green Bay and Sheboygan areas lead the state, each with four private schools or school systems participating in the WPCP for the 2014-15 school year. Appleton, Fond du Lac, Kenosha, Manitowoc, Oshkosh, and Wisconsin Rapids will each have two private schools or school systems participating in the statewide choice program. The remaining communities will each have one private school or school system participating in the WPCP.

The six new participants for 2014-15 are: Fox Valley Lutheran High School (Appleton), Saint Paul Lutheran School (Bonduel), Saint Paul Lutheran School (Sheboygan), Trinity Lutheran School (Sheboygan), Twin City Catholic

(more)

Education System (Menasha/Neenah), and Winnebago Lutheran Academy (Fond du Lac). The five private schools or school systems from 2013-14 that will not be included in the random drawing for additional voucher slots for 2014-15 are: Green Bay Area Catholic Education – South, Green Bay Area Catholic Education – West, Lighthouse Christian School (Madison), Saint John Lutheran School (Plymouth), and Sheboygan Area Lutheran High School.

Parents and guardians submitted applications for 3,407 students to attend the 68 schools that indicated their intent to participate in the statewide voucher program for 2014-15. This number includes all current voucher students who re-applied to continue attending school through the WPCP.

2014-15 WPCP Applications	
Total Applications (Includes 483 WPCP students from 2013-14)	3,407
Applications for 31 Eligible Private Schools (Includes 482 WPCP students from 2013-14)	2,834
Applications for Students New to WPCP at 31 Eligible Private Schools	2,352

Of the 2,834 student applications for the 31 eligible private schools or school systems, 75 percent (2,115) are attending a private school this year, including students currently participating in the statewide voucher program. Nineteen percent of student applications for eligible private schools or school systems (537) are from students attending a public school this year.

By state law, the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program is limited to 1,000 full time equivalent (FTE) students for the 2014-15 school year, an increase of 500 FTE from the current year. State law also requires the voucher slots be assigned as follows:

- Schools participating in the voucher program for 2013-14 must receive at least the same number of voucher slots for the coming school year.
- Each of the 26 schools with the most eligible applications for the 2014-15 school year will receive at least 10 voucher slots.
- The remaining voucher slots will be assigned by random selection to those 26 schools with the most eligible applications for the 2014-15 school year.

The department will conduct a random selection of eligible student applications by computer. Parents will begin receiving notices later in May. According to state law, new schools must submit documentation of their certificate of occupancy and meet program financial requirements by Aug. 1, 2014.

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NOTES: A list of the schools receiving the most applications for the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program follows. The number in parentheses on that list is the number of eligible applications used to calculate the top 25 schools. A complete list of eligible applications received by the 68 schools that indicated an interest in participating in the statewide voucher program is available on the Private School Choice Programs website, http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/choice_programs. This news release is available electronically at http://dpi.wi.gov/files/eis/pdf/dpinr2014_70.pdf.

Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP)

Schools Receiving the Most Applications

Application Period — February 1 through April 21, 2014

Appleton

Saint Francis Xavier Catholic School System (191)
*Fox Valley Lutheran High School (99)

Beloit and Janesville

Rock County Christian School (100)

Bonduel

*Saint Paul Lutheran School (62)

Chippewa Falls

McDonnell Area Catholic School (74)

Eau Claire and Altoona

Regis Catholic Schools (111)

Fond du Lac

Saint Mary's Springs Academy (80)
*Winnebago Lutheran Academy (74)

Green Bay and De Pere

Green Bay Area Catholic Education – East (96)
Notre Dame de la Baie Academy (75)

Kenosha

Friedens Lutheran School (90)
Saint Joseph Catholic Academy (75)

La Crosse and Onalaska

Aquinas Catholic Schools (85)

Manitowoc

^Roncalli High School (57)
Saint Francis of Assisi School (73)

Marshfield

Columbus Catholic Schools (89)

Menasha and Neenah

*Twin City Catholic Educational System (110)

Oshkosh

Lourdes Academy (96)
Valley Christian School (100)

Sheboygan

^Sheboygan Christian School (57)
*Saint Paul Lutheran School (69)
*Trinity Lutheran School (65)

Stevens Point and Plover

Stevens Point Area Catholic Schools (89)

Wausau and Rothschild

Newman Catholic Schools (112)

Wisconsin Rapids

Assumption Catholic Schools (92)
Immanuel Lutheran School (63)

The following schools participated in the WPCP during the 2013-14 school year, but did not make the list of schools with the most eligible applications for the 2014-15 school year, and will not be included in the random drawing for additional voucher slots. State law provides that they will receive the same number of voucher slots (55) as they had during the 2013-14 school year:

- **Green Bay**
Green Bay Area Catholic Education – South
Green Bay Area Catholic Education – West
- **Madison**
Lighthouse Christian School
- **Plymouth**
Saint John Lutheran School
- **Sheboygan**
Sheboygan Area Lutheran High School

NOTES: The number in parenthesis is the number of eligible applications received at each school and does not indicate the number of students who will attend for 2014-15 using a state voucher. An * indicates a new school for the 2014-15 school year. An ^ indicates a tie for the 25th spot. For 2014-15, state law limits the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program to 1,000 pupils. The Department of Public Instruction will conduct a random drawing of eligible applications to determine the students who may participate in the program.

Additional information about the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program is available on the Private School Choice Programs website at: http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/choice_programs.